



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 8, 2006

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USDA Rural Development Joins City of Burns In Celebrating Completion of City Building Restoration City Hall and Library Holds Open House

Burns, KS – USDA Rural Development State Director Chuck Banks joined Mayor Mary Glenn, local dignitaries and Kansas State Senator Jim Barnett in celebrating the ribbon cutting ceremony the City of Burns City Hall and Library dedication. The project, funded in part by a USDA Rural Development *Community Facility Program* loan of \$50,000 and a grant of \$50,000, assisted in the renovation of a historic building in downtown Burns to address deficiencies that were present with the then-existing City Hall and Library.

“USDA Rural Development appreciates the opportunity to support the City of Burns in this endeavor. The Agency’s *Community Facility Program* is a great tool available to rural communities to assist them in developing new or enhancing existing facilities for public safety, public service or health care. The benefits of the Program can significantly improve the viability of needed community facility projects,” State Director Chuck Banks said during Saturday’s open house.

Mayor Glenn commented, “The City of Burns thanks USDA Rural Development for the *Community Facility Program* loan and grant funds that helped in our renovation of the historic building that once housed a post office, and converted it for use as our City Hall and Library. The City also appreciates all the contributions from the community that helped make this project possible.”

USDA Rural Development’s *Community Facility Program* can provide financial assistance to eligible organizations for the construction or improvement of assisted living facilities, childcare facilities, community centers, fire and rescue stations, hospitals, libraries, medical clinics, police stations, public buildings, schools or transportation facilities. This community facility project, also supported by approximately \$90,000 in local funding, will serve a regional population of approximately 1,000 area residents.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs that support increasing economic opportunities and enhancing the quality of life for rural Americans. As a venture capital entity, USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure in rural America. During Fiscal Year 2005, USDA Rural Development delivered nearly \$235 million in community and economic development programming benefiting Kansas. For additional information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, individuals may call the Agency’s state headquarters at 785-271-2700 or log onto the Agency’s Kansas website at: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks

USDA Rural Development – *Committed to the future of rural communities.*

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